



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Executive Board

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## Item 38, 39, 40 and 41 of the provisional agenda

### COMMENTS BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON ITEMS PRESENTED BY MEMBER STATES WHICH MAY HAVE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

1. Following 170 EX/Decision 5.1, which states that “the Executive Board shall not take a decision involving expenditure unless it has before it a report from the Director-General on the administrative and financial implications of the proposal”, the Director-General is presenting her comments on three items presented by Member States at the present session of the Executive Board.

#### **Item 38: International Day of Sports and Physical Activity – 192 EX 38, Item proposed by Djibouti on behalf of the Africa Group**

2. This item introduced by Djibouti on behalf of the Africa Group concerns the proclamation of an International Day of Sports and Physical Activity to celebrate the contribution of sports and physical activity to education, human development, healthy lifestyles and a peaceful world. It is presented in the context of UNESCO’s work on physical education and sport and the efforts undertaken by the Intergovernmental Committee on Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS) to advocate public investments in this area.

3. The Director-General informs Member States that the United Nations General Assembly, at its 67th session on 23 August 2013, has adopted Resolution A/RES/67/296 proclaiming the *International Day of Sport for Development and Peace* to be celebrated on 6 April. She recalls that following a resolution by the 9th Plenary Meeting of the World Health Organization on 18 May 2002 urging its Member States to celebrate a “Move for Health Day”, 6 April has been used since the year 2003 by some civil society organizations for celebrating a “World Day for Physical Activity”. These Resolutions are in line with the Declaration adopted by the 3rd International Forum on Sport for Peace and Development held at the United Nations Headquarters on 5 and 6 June. Furthermore, the Declaration of Berlin, adopted at UNESCO’s 5th International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport (MINEPS V), held in Berlin, Germany, from 29 to 30 May 2013,<sup>1</sup> recognizes the unique potential of sport to foster social inclusion and stresses the importance of raising awareness in fostering its socio-economic benefits.

4. UNESCO will cooperate with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace, as well as with CIGEPS and especially with the other United Nations organizations that are permanent members of its Permanent Consultative Council to use the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace as a means of promoting the follow-up to MINEPS V.

5. This new International Day could provide an opportunity for mobilizing partners from the sport movement and from civil society. It must be stressed however, that the nature of the specific

<sup>1</sup> See documents 37 C/INF.14 & 37 C/INF.16.

activities to be carried out by UNESCO for celebrating this Day would require extrabudgetary resources in order to fully implement this initiative.

**Item 39: Proclamation of 2016 as International Year of Global Understanding (IYGU) – 192 EX 39, Item proposed by Djibouti on behalf of the Africa Group**

6. This item is presented by Djibouti on behalf of the Africa Group proposing an International Year of Global Understanding (IYGU) aims to yield deep, but practical, insights into the ways all peoples can live together more sustainably. The focus will be on developing strategies for targeted local projects with a global reach. The core elements of the IYGU objectives are research, education and information.

7. As indicated in the Explanatory Note, this initiative is led by the International Geographical Union (IGU) and is expected to complement the Future Earth initiative (co-sponsored by ICSU, ISSC, UNESCO, UNEP, UNU and the Belmont Forum), through the mobilization of the social and natural sciences, as well as the humanities, to engage in sustainability research.

8. The IGYU could draw from UNESCO's programmes and activities, such as for example education for sustainable development; climate change education, etc. Nevertheless, it should be emphasized that the preparation and implementation of a related action plan would require additional extrabudgetary resources.

**Item 40: Ethics and privacy in cyberspace – 192 EX 40, Item proposed by Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Cuba, India, Nicaragua, Peru, Russian Federation, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)**

9. This proposal by Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Cuba, India Nicaragua, Peru, Russian Federation, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) recalls the importance of UNESCO's work in the field of ethics in cyberspace and requests the Director-General to submit to the General Conference at its 37th session proposals within the scope of its mandate to reinforce Internet governance, including a schedule for multi-stakeholder events dealing with ethics and privacy in cyberspace and a report on the desirability of a standard setting instrument in this field.

10. Concerning the schedule of events dealing with ethics and privacy, the Director-General wishes to point out that this proposal is consistent with the decision made by the Executive Board at its 190th session after considering the proposed activities contained in document 190 EX/5 Part I (D), "UNESCO and the Ethical Dimensions of the Information Society". By this decision, the Board called for a periodic reporting on the progress made in the implementation of the related activities. The Director-General would be ready to provide a schedule of events on this issue.

11. However, the proposed decision also requires the preparation of a "Report on the desirability of a declaration, charter or similar standard-setting instrument dedicated to ethics and privacy in cyberspace [...]". When viewed in light of the three-week period between the Executive Board and the General Conference, there may not be adequate time for a comprehensive feasibility study to be conducted. It also must be stressed that such feasibility study would have financial implications for its preparation.

**Item 41: The Post-2015 Perspective of Education for All (EFA) – 192 EX 41, Item proposed by Japan**

12. This item proposed by Japan concerns the preparation of the education agenda post-2015. The Director-General considers that the request to report on the assessment of EFA and challenges in this respect is in line with her own proposal to inscribe "Education beyond 2015" on the agenda of the 37th session of the General Conference (item 5.12). The debate on this item will allow a timely and wide consultation of Member States on different options for the post 2015 education agenda and guide the Secretariat in its future work to prepare with key partners, a series

of regional consultation meetings in 2014 to further refine the proposed agenda. This effort will culminate in a global conference in Korea in 2015.

13. The Director-General proposes to accommodate the considerations and issues raised by Japan in the report she is preparing for item 5.12 (document 37 C/56). The report will present key options and some guiding principles for a post 2015 education perspective, and outline the current process of "national EFA 2015 reviews". The outcome of the national reviews, including identification of challenges encountered in the implementation of EFA at national level will feed the discussion of Member States during the regional consultation processes.